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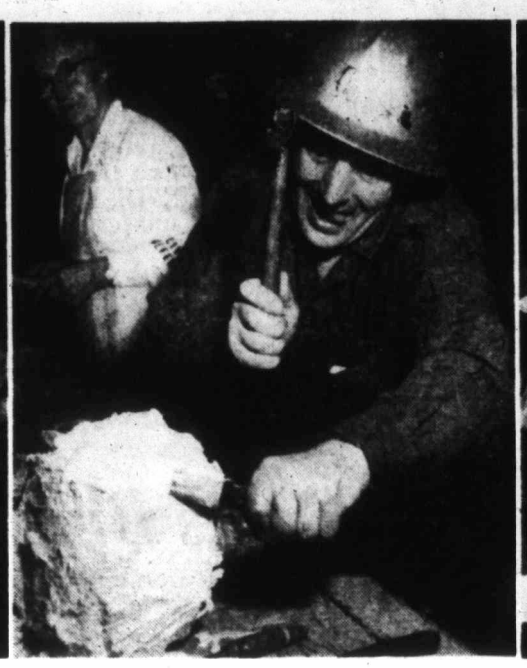
Civil defence warden, Mrs. Dorothy Eddy of Milnes Landing, comforts two-year-old evacuee Mary Anwyll, 413 Langford.



Frozen ice cream, too hard to scoop, is chopped apart with hammer and butcher knife wielded by warden James H. Martin of Sooke.

Red Cross workers taking time out for "stew" lunch are Mrs. Nora Foster, right; Miss Winifred Dawson-Thomas and Miss Amy Lowe.

Evacuees waiting to be fed are Mrs. F. W. Holland, right, S. M. Hale, Mrs. Josephine Hale, Mrs. Jessie Stewart and Mrs. Catherine Kelman.

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Huge Civil Defence Exercise

500 'Refugees' Stream From 'Stricken' City

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We Can Handle 10,000 In Crisis, Says Sooke

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The small community of Sooke, during the largest civil defence mass evacuation ever conducted in British Columbia, yesterday proved it can take care of "refugees" from Victoria.

Not only was "Operation Friendship" — evacuation of some 400 to 500 Victoria West residents — considered a success by civil defence officials, but Sooke residents later claimed they could take care of 10,000 Victorians in time of emergency.

None of the evacuees, who "fled" their homes between 9.30 and 10 a.m., were heard to say they gave any thought during the 45-minute ride to Sooke that their families or homes really could have been wiped out by an enemy aerial attack.

Many said they considered it a "holiday" from their everyday routines, despite such grim reminders as the posting of RCMP and civil defence men at all main intersections along the route to direct traffic, and the confusion created by hundreds of evacuees swarming into the welfare centre (Sooke Community Hall) and milling about while waiting for instructions.

In the practice operation, all evacuees registered with the Red Cross, separated families were reunited, clothing was issued to the needy, all were fed a stew lunch and then "billeted" to various Sooke homes.

Two casualties were reported, a two-year-old girl who spilled hot stew on her wrist and one of the 20 kitchen helpers who cut her finger.

Among the day's crises were a query if toothpicks were to be served, and ice cream so hard it had to be chopped apart with a hammer and a butcher knife.

Operation Friendship was a success, civil defence officials said, but there were "bugs" in the plan which will have to be overcome in the future.

Provincial civil defence coordinator Brig. G. A. McCarter said, "In eight years of watching demonstrations of this kind, this is the best I've seen."

There would be no ice cream or stew if the "real thing" ever comes along, he warned. "Evacuees are expected to provide their own survival rations for seven days."

More portable "loud-hailers" are needed to control the movement of so many people inside the welfare centre, he said. Only two were available yesterday and both came from his office, Brig. McCarter said.

Welfare workers are now very conscious of the need for keeping children occupied, he added. "Child care is a vital and important consideration. Some children might arrive here without their parents," he said.

Greater Victoria target area civil defence director, Commodore Val Godfrey, said, "We did better than we expected, despite a slight holdup in registration." He wanted to thank everyone concerned in any way with the operation.

Sooke civil defence officer P. W. de P. Taylor said, "We could easily handle 10,000 evacuees in Sooke for several days. We feed that many every July on All-Sooke Day; and we have three welfare centres, two schools and a community hall that could be put in use."

"This is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when you have a good organization," Mayor Percy Scurrah said. "In case anything does happen, it's extremely important we have experience of this type."

Sidney Licence Sale Brings In $34,000

Sale of motor vehicle licences, this year available for the first time at the Sidney village office, exceeded $34,000 to the end of February, Municipal Clerk A. W. Sharp reported.

Included were 1,200 private vehicle licences, and 300 commercial.

Easter Food Stall Planned for Needy

A special Easter surplus food stall for needy families will be held Saturday, starting at 1 p.m., in the City Public Market.

Mrs. E. E. Harper, convener of the stall, said yesterday, "A lot of people on unemployment insurance are running out and they still haven't found work. This makes the demand on us very heavy. We would appreciate food of all kinds, and all kinds of it."

Persons wishing to donate food are asked to contact Mrs. Harper at GRanite 4-1750.

Not the Answer

Edgelow Raps Crystal Plan

Ald. Geoffrey Edgelow said last night he was opposed to the suggestion that the city acquire and run the Crystal Garden to cut administration costs on an adjoining civic auditorium.

"I don't think this is the answer to the problem of getting an auditorium for Victoria," he said.

Earlier, former alderman Brent Murdoch said he would like to see the city acquire the Garden, which is built on city property leased to the CPR, preferably before the existing 20-year lease expires on Jan. 1, 1965.

Mr. Murdoch said administration costs on the auditorium, which could be built with assistance of a provincial grant, would be reduced by the revenue-producing Garden operation.

Ald. Edgelow said: "I don't want to be unduly critical of Mr. Murdoch, who no doubt has made a study. But this my belief that council shouldn't get into operation of the Crystal Garden.

"We are having enough trouble with the CPR leaving Victoria, as it is, without encouraging it further by taking over any company operations."

Ald. Edgelow said when the city does build an auditorium, a central location will likely be chosen, possibly in the vicinity of the suggested site. He is chairman of a trust committee holding $12,500 turned over by the Greater Victoria Centennial Committee for construction of an auditorium.

Fund Drive

No Knockers From Jubilee

Royal Jubilee Hospital canvassers won't go knocking on doors in the Greater Victoria area next month for funds to help build a $2,500,000 hospital wing.

Instead, everyone who has already contributed to the campaign, which seeks to raise $410,000 from public donations by April 30, will receive a letter appealing for contributions. The letter will be followed by a phone call.

Spokesman for the campaign organizers said: "We estimated there have been six door-to-door appeals in Greater Victoria so far this year. This would have been the seventh. We feel people are getting a little tired of that approach."

Some 400 woman canvassers will each be responsible for hand-addressing about 80 envelopes, which will be sent with the letter appealing for contributions in a sealed envelope by first-class mail. Within a few days the canvasser will follow up her letter with a personal phone call.

All those who have contributed by the time the general public appeal starts around the middle of April will have their names taken off this list.

Providing it can raise the $410,000, Royal Jubilee Hospital will receive grants amounting to more than $2,000,000 from federal, provincial and municipal governments for construction of the new wing. The commercial campaign starts Monday.

Central Saanich Council Told:

'Don't Sell Pump —You Don't Own It'

Central Saanich council nearly did it again.

Memories of the long-drawn dispute between the municipality and former Reeve Sydney Pickles over ownership of a fire truck were revived when the council received a letter from Coal Island, Ltd., offering $105 for a trailer with engine and pump, to be used for fire protection on the island.

Council engaged in a brief discussion of the value of the equipment before Mr. Pickles, who was the lone spectator at the meeting, rose and asked permission to speak.

"You do not own a trailer pump, gentlemen," he told the council. "It was loaned to the municipality by Victoria fire department to help us get our volunteer department started. It still belongs to them."

Council hastily decided to find out the wishes of the owner of the trailer before attempting to sell it.

Pickles Protests Afternoon Meetings

Holding of afternoon meetings by Central Saanich council was protested last week by Sydney Pickles, former reeve of the municipality.

"Most of our ratepayers work during the day," Mr. Pickles told the council," and are thus prevented from attending the meetings."

"Until recently they have all been in the evening," Reeve H. R. Brown told him, "and we rarely ever had more than two people present."

Mr. Pickles insisted that whether anyone attended or not, the opportunity to do so should be provided.

"Many are indignant and unhappy about the afternoon meetings," he said. "And it is the duty of the council to consider the wishes of the ratepayers first."

"You're the only objector we've had," the reeve retorted.

Dismissals Threatened

Civil Servants Await Verdict

B.C.'s 11,200 civil servants are maintaining full strike machinery to renew their history-making walkout Tuesday, if the anti-picketing injunction against them is set aside Tuesday.

The four-hour strike brought government operations almost to a standstill Friday.

"It was a moral victory for us, all right," said Lawrence Huck of Victoria, second-vice-president of the association's provincial executive.

'STANDING FIRM'

"The 85 per cent of Victoria civil servants (there are 3,000 here altogether) who struck are standing firm, with no weakening."

Mr. Huck added that many of them had been targets of intimidation and threats to fire them.

The newly-militant government workers plan no further action until after Tuesday's Supreme Court hearing on the injunction which cut the strike short.

"The general feeling, in the event the injunction is set aside, is that a date will be set for renewal of the strike, unless settlement is reached before," said J. F. Christian, Vancouver strike committee chairman.

The civil servants struck for recognition of the association by the government as a bargaining agent and over government "suppression" of a report on their bargaining rights by UBC's Prof. A. W. Carrothers.

Executive is expected to meet either today or tomorrow, with association leaders hearing a report from association counsel Thomas Dohm on what steps to take after the injunction hearing.

Mr. Christian said association members and officials were generally jubilant because of the moral victory gained by the strikers.

"It proved to employers, the public and our members that we were prepared to take militant action to uphold a principle."

The Vancouver spokesman said "the walkout was in spite of gaining all wage demands. It was a moral question over recognition and the government's promise to table the Carrothers' report."

Mr. Christian said he himself felt there would have been a "terrible danger" if the strike had continued without pickets to support it.

"Intimidation was rife prior to the strike. There were threats of wholesale replacements of staff if we struck.

POSSIBLE EFFECT

"With no information pickets as a deterrent, the government could conceivably replace staffs and have some operations going within 24 hours.

"Pickets are the whole basis of strike action, and without them, there would be a gradual deterioration of the effectiveness of a strike."

Mr. Christian said institution staff members in his area "had telephone calls to report back to work within a certain time or be fired."

Despite the calls, he said, almost 100 per cent of the 2,100 members he supervised in Greater Vancouver joined the walkout.

CARL HAROLD

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Seen In Passing

Carl Harold and his pet cat, Smokey, watching construction of his new 43-foot troller at Gorge Boathouse. (A fisherman for 12 years and part-time boat builder, the present troller will bring total of boats he has built to four. His home is at 335 Gorge Road West. His wife's name is **Sanni** and there are four daughters, **Ann**, 19; **Anita**, 17; **Linda**, 11, and **Judith**, six. His hobby is reading) . . . **Mrs. Anna Ranns** joking about used clothing . . . **Mrs. Shirley Jefferson** giving advice on registration . . . **Gary Nixon** and **Peter Horn** with moustaches and bowler hats . . . **Phyllis Pratt** reluctant to return to Alberta after seeing B.C. for the first time . . . **John MacConnachie** getting ready to join the other boys in the Sidney amateur radio operators' club.

Saanich 4H-ers

Goats Pride Of 23

Saanich boasts the first 4-H goat club in Canada, established almost five years ago, and still the only one in Western Canada.

The idea was born about the time when Mrs. Charles Maule learned she was allergic to cows' milk. She started to raise goats on the family's Green Acres farm for milk.

"Most people around here keep goats," she says. "And when the parents have goats it's easier to teach the children to raise and care for them."

The club now has 23 members between the ages of 10 and 20. Over the years they have raised almost 50 kid goats. At present there are three projects, kids, yearlings and milk goats.

SICKLY BABIES

"Goat's milk is wonderful for sickly babies," says Mrs. Maule. "I used to come out in a rash when I drank too much cow's milk. I never have any trouble with goat's milk."

And goats definitely don't eat tin cans, she says, no matter what the reports.

"They like to nibble at the paper on the cans. They don't eat it, but just seem to chew it up. Actually, goats are very fussy about what they eat. Hay must be soft and green. If there's any dirt in it, my goats won't eat.

They make good playful pets. But Mrs. Maule emphasizes; "We don't raise pets. We want children to be kind to animals. But we're a commercial club.

Two-Day, Class C Show

Combine Four Fairs Luxton Will Suggest

Officials of the Luxton Fall Fair are attempting to combine other, local fall fairs into one compact organization to present a two-day, class C fair, on the Luxton fair grounds.

Luxton officials are canvassing residents of Langford, Colwood and Sooke, inviting members of the fall fair committees from those areas to attend an organizational meeting to be held at Luxton at 8 p.m. Monday.

Stanley Hiscock, manager of the Luxton fair, said yesterday the fair had expanded to a class C exhibition last year, for the first time. "We hope to put on another class C fair this year if the other districts come in," he said.

"We also hope to increase the participation of 4-H clubs, to get young men and women interested."

Mr. Hiscock said he had spoken about the plan to an official of the B.C. Fairs Association and received encouragement for the project.

Traps Won't Operate At Sooke This Year

For the second time in 55 years the Sooke fish traps will not be in operation this year. They are the only salt water fish traps in Canada.

Capt. Joe Collins, plant manager, said the main reason for suspending operations was "shortage of fishing time" resulting from the fisheries conservation program.

He said an unusually small run of sockeye and pinks has been predicted for this year.

He said the company feels conservation measures are going to do a lot of geod in the future. Catches in recent years dwindled steadily as more fishing vessels crowded into the area.

Capt. Collins estimated last year as many as 100 seiners and 300 gilnetters fished in the area.

Sooke fish traps operated continuously from 1904 until 1956, when operations were suspended for reorganization.